**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-13, without prejudice.

1-13 (cancel)

14. (new) In a method of interventional or intraoperative MRI wherein an invasive device is inserted into the vasculature of a human or non human animal body or through vascularised tissue in said body and an MR image of at least a part of said body containing said device is generated, the improvement comprising administering a blood pool contrast agent into the vasculature of said body, either by direct injection of the blood pool contrast agent through said device or by i.v. injection of the blood pool contrast agent directly into the body.

15. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein said device is selected from the group consisting of catheters, balloons, optical fibres, guide wires, needles, biopsy needles, electrodes, electrode leads, implants, stents and stent grafts.

16. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein said blood pool contrast agent comprises compounds selected from the group consisting of MS-325, carboxymethyl dextran GdDTPA conjugates, GdDTPA polylysine conjugates, cascade polymers, dendrimer polymers, superparamagnetic iron oxides, ultrasmall superparamagnetic iron oxides and carbohydrate stabilised iron oxide particles.

17. (new) The method of claim 16 wherein said blood pool contrast agent comprises superparamagnetic iron oxide particles having on their surfaces degraded starch.

18. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein said blood pool contrast agent further comprises a hydrophilic polymer.

19. (new) The method of claim 18 wherein said hydrophilic polymer is a functionalized polyalkylene oxide.

20. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein a difference in at least one parameter chosen from $T_1$, $T_2$ and $T_2$* between the blood and said device is utilized to generate image contrast between the blood and said device.

21. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein said device is filled with a diamagnetic material or a paramagnetic material

22. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein said blood pool contrast agent enhances $T_1$ and/or $T_2$* relaxation properties of the blood relative to that of said device.

23. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the $T_1$ relaxation property of the blood is enhanced relative to said device; $T_1$-weighted sequences are used and said device is filled with diamagnetic material so that the blood appears bright in said image, relative to said device.

24. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the $T_2$* relaxation property of the blood is enhanced relative to said device; $T_2$*-weighted sequences are used and said device is filled with paramagnetic material so that said device appears bright in said image, relative to the blood.

25. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein said device is not marked with a magnetic susceptibility agent.